

478 Merritt Avenue, Apt. 4
Oakland, CA 94610

March 14, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch
Food & Drug Administration
Dept of Health and Human Services
12420 Parklawn Drive, Room I-23
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Sirs:

I recently learned of the very cruel practice of the egg industry - starving millions of hens for 14 days - to increase egg production.

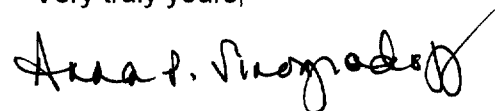
During this time of starvation, the hens become terrified and desperate. They experience pain, and exhibit abnormal behavior in frantic efforts to obtain nutrients. Many die from the experience.

The stress may be so great that the hens' immune systems become impaired, predisposing the eggs to Salmonella infection.

Surely we can respect the animals whose lives we take to nourish our own. There is a petition filed under docket # 98P-0203/CP to eliminate this cruel practice. Please, please grant this petition.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Very truly yours,



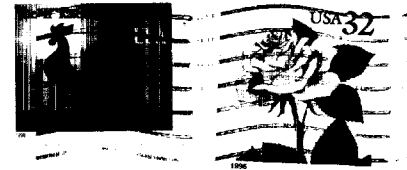
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